IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 11 as follows:

As described above, the operating unit 4 is provided on the base side of the insertion portion 2 as also illustrated in Fig. 5 and Fig. 6, and is configured of a first handle 37 which is a turning operating piece capable of turning as to the supporting member 31, a second handle 39 which is an opening/closing operating piece connected to the first handle 37 through a second opening/closing pivot pin ~~shaft~~ (38) so as to be capable of being opened and closed, a linking mechanism for transmitting force generated by operating these two handles (37, 39) to the treatment unit 3, [[an]] and so forth.